**Amendments to the claims:**

1. (currently amended) A drive device of a printing press, having at least one virtual leading axle (a; b) for presetting a desired angular position ($\Phi_l'$) of a drive (08) of at least one unit (01; 02; 03; 04; 06; 07) driven by a separate ~~its own~~ drive motor (M),

wherein the leading axle (a; b) is connected to at least one circuit (15; 20), which is configured ~~able~~ to convert ~~the~~ chronologically changing datum for the angular position of a leading axle position ($\Phi$) into a pulse train ($I(t)$; $I_0(t)$) in the form of output signals ($I(t)$; $I_0(t)$), wherein the circuit is configured to be parameterized ~~and it is possible to parameterize the circuit (15; 20)~~ with regard to a ~~the~~ number of pulses per rotation ($n/2\pi$).

2. (original) The drive device as recited in claim 1,

wherein the pulse train ($I(t)$; $I_0(t)$) is supplied to a drive of a subassembly (19), which is independently driven by the drive (08) of the unit (01; 02; 03; 04; 06; 07) that is coupled to the leading axle (a; b).

3. (original) The drive device as recited in claim 1,

wherein the circuit includes a number of subcircuits that are able to generate a number of pulse trains ($I(t)$) in the form of output signals ($I(t)$) at a number of outputs.

4. (currently amended) The drive device as recited in claim ~~1~~ 3, wherein the circuit (15; 20) or subcircuit is adjustable with regard to additional parameters ($n/2\pi$, $\tau$, I, $I_n(t)$, "0") that relate to a ~~the~~ shape of the output signal (I(t)).

5. (currently amended) The drive device as recited in claim ~~1~~ 3, wherein the circuit (15; 20) or subcircuit is embodied in the form of an emulator circuit.

6. (currently amended) The drive device as recited in claim ~~1~~ 3, wherein the input of the circuit (15; 20) or subcircuit receives the current leading axle position ($\Phi$) from a drive control unit (13) or a computing and data processing unit (11) of the printing press.

7. (original) The drive device as recited in claim 1, wherein the circuit (15; 20) is connected as a client to a network (09) that conveys the leading axle position ($\Phi$) and receives its angular position at its input.

8. (original) The drive device as recited in claim 1, wherein a drive control unit (13) that presets the leading axle position ($\Phi$) is provided, which has at least one circuit (15; 20).

9. (currently amended) The drive device as recited in claim 1, wherein a first and at least one second circuit (20; 15) are provided for converting the chronologically changing datum for the angular position of a leading axle position (Φ) into a pulse train ($I(t)$; $I_0(t)$) in the form of output signals ($I(t)$; $I_0(t)$) ~~conversion purposes~~.

10. (original) The drive device as recited in claim 9, wherein a drive control unit (13; 17) that presets the leading axle position (□) has a first circuit (20), which converts the chronologically changing datum of the leading axle position (Φ) into a first pulse train ($I_0(t)$) with a fixed, definite number of pulses per rotation ($n/2\pi$) of the leading axle (a; b).

11. (original) The drive device as recited in claim 10, wherein an output of the first circuit (20) communicates with the input of a second circuit (15), which is able to convert the first pulse train ($I_0(t)$) into a new pulse-shaped output signal ($I(t)$) in conjunction with parameters ($n/2\pi$, $\tau$, I, $I_n(t)$, "0") that influence the shape.

12. (currently amended) The drive device as recited in claim ~~3~~ 11, wherein the second circuit (15) has a number of subcircuits, which are able to generate a number of different pulse trains ($I(t)$) in the form of output signals ($I(t)$) at a number of outputs.

13. (currently amended) The drive device as recited in claim ~~11~~ ~~12~~, wherein the parameters ($n/2\pi$, $\tau$, I, $I_n(t)$, "0") of the circuit (15) or its subcircuits are adjustable.

14. (previously presented) The drive device as recited in claim 1, wherein it is possible to parameterize the output signal (I(t)) with regard to the number of output pulses per rotation ($n/2\pi$) of the leading axle (a; b).

15. (previously presented) The drive device as recited in claim 1, wherein it is possible to parameterize the circuit (15; 20) with regard to the number of pulses per rotation ($n/2\pi$) of a subassembly (19) to be controlled by means of the circuit (15; 20).

16. (previously presented) The drive device as recited in claim 4, wherein it is possible to parameterize the output signal (I(t)) with regard to a height of its amplitude (I).

17. (previously presented) The drive device as recited in claim 1, wherein the converted pulse train (I(t)) is present at the output of the circuit (15; 20) in the form of a digital output signal (I(t)).

18. (previously presented) The drive device as recited in claim 1,

wherein the converted pulse train ($I(t)$) is present at the output of the circuit (15; 20) in the form of an analog output signal ($I(t)$).

19. (previously presented) The drive device as recited in claim 1, wherein the output signal ($I(t)$) at an output has a set of correlated pulse trains ($I_A(t)$; $I_B(t)$; $I_C(t)$).

20. (previously presented) The drive device as recited in claim 4, wherein the circuit (15; 20) is detachably connected to a computing unit (11) in order to adjust the parameters ($n/2\pi$, $\tau$, $I$, $I_n(t)$, "0").

21. (original) The drive device as recited in claim 1, wherein the leading axle position ($\Phi$) is preset by a drive control unit (13; 17).

22. (currently amended) The drive device as recited in claim 10, wherein the drive control unit (13; 17) that presets the leading axle position ($\Phi$) is embodied in the form of an independent master for ~~all of~~ the drives (08) that are coupled to this leading axle (a; b).

23. (previously presented) The drive device as recited in claim 10, wherein the drive control unit (17) that presets the leading axle position ($\Phi$) is embodied as a drive control unit (17) of a folding unit (06).

24. (currently amended) A method for controlling a subassembly of a printing press having at least one virtual leading axle (a; b) for presetting a desired angular position ($\Phi_l'$) of a drive (08) of at least one unit (01; 02; 03; 04; 06; 07) driven by a separate ~~its own~~ drive motor (M),

wherein at least one circuit (15; 20) connected to the leading axle (a; b) converts the chronologically changing datum for the angular position of a leading axle position ($\Phi$) into a pulse train ($I(t)$; $I_0(t)$) and supplies it in the form of output signals ($I(t)$; $I_0(t)$) to the subassembly (19) and an incremental resolution between the rotating leading axle (a; b) and an angular position transducer of a subassembly (19) to be controlled via the circuit (15; 20) or ~~and/or~~ its drive motor is performed by parameterizing the circuit.